

Remarks

Claims 1-26 are pending, and claims 1-26 stand rejected. Claims 1-26 are cancelled without prejudice by this response. Claims 27-44 are added by this response and do not constitute new matter. The Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection and request allowance of claims 27-44.

Claim Objections

The Applicants cancelled claims 1-26 making the claim objections moot.

§ 102 Claim Rejections

The Examiner rejected claims 1-26 under 35 U.S.C. § 102 as anticipated by a reference from Paul F. Tsuchiya and Tony Eng, entitled "Extending the IP Internet Through Address Reuse". The Applicants cancelled claims 1-26 making the § 102 rejections moot.

For new claims 27-44, the Applicants submit that new claims 27-44 are novel and non-obvious in view of the Tsuchiya reference. First, for claim 27, the Tsuchiya reference does not teach a domain name server as described in claim 27. In particular, the Tsuchiya reference does not teach a domain name server that maintains and updates a first address data structure having the fields described in claim 27. The only relevant teaching in the Tsuchiya reference related to an address data structure provides that a DNS may cache an assignment of a public address. However, the Tsuchiya reference does not specify what data is being cached and does not provide a teaching of the address data structure described in claim 27. Also, the Tsuchiya reference does not state that the DNS caches a time period for the assignment. The Tsuchiya reference merely states that the assignment in the cache needs to be removed after expiration of the time period. Therefore, the Tsuchiya reference does not inherently or obviously teach the domain name server as described in claim 27.

Secondly, the Tsuchiya reference does not teach a network address translator as described in claim 27. In particular, the Tsuchiya reference does not teach a network address translator that maintains and updates an address data structure as described in claim 27. The Tsuchiya reference does not describe a network address translator that determines if any public addresses have timed-out, and then updates an address data structure and transmits a message to the

domain name server that the public address is no longer valid if a public address has timed-out, as described in claim 27.

For these reasons, claim 27 is novel and non-obvious in view of the Tsuchiya reference. Claim 36 is novel and non-obvious for similar reasons. The dependent claims are novel and non-obvious as being dependent on a novel and non-obvious independent claim.

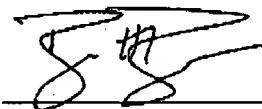
Conclusion

Based on the above remarks, the Applicants submit that claims 27-44 are allowable. There may be additional reasons in support of patentability, but such reasons are omitted in the interests of brevity. The Applicants respectfully request allowance of claims 27-44.

Any fees may be charged to deposit account 21-0765.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 11/11/03



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